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## **Comments on two milestones from the Danube road in Moesia inferior**

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Manfred Clauss / Anne Kolb / Wolfgang A. Slaby / Barbara Woitas

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**EDCS-J 2, 07/2020**

**Anne Kolb**

**Comments on two milestones from  
the Danube road in Moesia inferior**

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## IMSZB-1995-537

**EDCS-ID:** EDCS-76700106

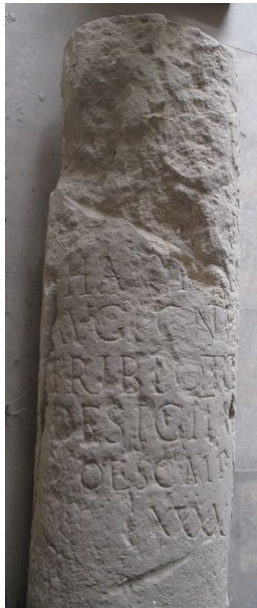
**dating:** 117 – 117

**province:** Moesia inferior

**place:** Kozloduy / Kozloduj / Regianum

**inscription genus / personal status:** Augusti/Augustae; miliaria; viri

**material:** lapis



T'                      3D'  
                             F·D'  
                             1·1E  
                             JVS  
 HA' 1    ANV  
 AVG·ONMAX  
 TRIBPOTCOST  
 DESIGII/3  
 OESCMP  
 XXXX

I[mp(erator) Cae]s(ar) di[vi] / [Trai(ani) Parth(ici)] f(ilius) di[vi] / [Nerv]ae  
 ne[pos] / [Trai]anus / Hadr[i]anu[s] / Aug(ustus) pont(ifex) max(imus) / trib(unicia)  
 pot(estate) co(n)s(ul) I / desig(natus) II ab / Oesc(o) m(ilia) p(assuum) / XXXX

**comment:**

In 1994 the milestone was found 2,5 km west of Kozloduy (near the ancient site of Regianum Ptol. 3,10,5; Geogr. Rav. 4,7 p. 190, 2) and subsequently published by S. Mashov, IMSZB 23, 1995, 537-540 [bulgarian]. Today it is preserved in the Regional Museum of Vratsa (Inv. 560) where it could be inspected together with Nicolay Sharankov and Ursula Kunnert in 2018. The milestone (of limestone) was broken into three fragments according to Mashov, but today only two damaged fragments are visible which are merged together. The measurements are: height 154 cm, diameter 38 cm, letters 8,6-5; ligatures are used in l. 3 for NE, l.6 for NT. The new reading differs slightly in the following lines:

1 [Ca]es[ar] MASHOV. – 3 [Nervae] MASHOV. – 4 [Trai]anu[s] MASHOV. – 5 Hadrianus MASHOV.

The date is between August 11 and December 9 of 117 according to trib. pot. I and cos. II desig., cf. Kienast-2017, 123f.

The stone belongs to the road along the Danube starting in the province of Moesia superior along the south bank of the Danube at Belgrade / Singidunum, reaching Moesia inferior and then leading further along the river until the Black sea, see M. Madzharov, Roman Roads in Bulgaria, Veliko Tŕrnovo 2009, 131-183. Until now only one earlier milestone from this road is known from the emperor Traian (EDCS-09100881 from Musait-Dunareni / Sacidava). The findspot Regianum seems to match the distance of 40 miles from Oescus.

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**IV-1912-3b = RA-1915-181,137**

**EDCS-ID:** EDCS-76700107

**dating:** 162 – 163

**province:** Moesia inferior

**place:** Ruse / Russe / Sexaginta Prista / Sexaginta Prisca

**inscription genus / personal status:** Augusti/Augustae; miliaria; milites; ordo senatorius; tria nomina; viri

**material:** lapis



DIVITRAIAN  
PRONP DIVINTRA  
ABNEPAL PRISUS  
PERC HIFLBRITT  
SERVIL FABIANO

[Imp(erator) Caesar M(arcus) Aurelius] / [Antoninus II imp(erator) Aug(ustus) ponti]/[fex maximus tribuniciae] / [potestatis XVI co(n)s(ul) III et] / [Imp(erator) Caesar L(ucius) Aurelius] / [Vetus Armeniacus Aug(ustus)] / [tribuniciae potestatis II co(n)s(ul) II] / [divi Pii T(iti) Antonini filii] / [divi Hadriani nepotes] / divi Traian[i] P[art]hi[ci] / pronep(otes) divi Nerva[e] / abnep(otes) a LX Pristis / per coh(ortem) II Fl(aviam) Britt(onum) / Servilio Fabiano / [leg(ato) Aug(usti) pr(o)pr(atore)] / [

**comment:**

In 1910 in Rusé (BG) / Sexaginta Prista a milestone had been found near the river bank of the Danube during the building works of the new harbour. At that time only H. and K. Skorpil saw the stone and published it: H. et K. Skorpil, IV 5, 1912, 3b. At that time it was already broken into two fragments, but still 125 cm in height, the upper part missing, therefore only six lines could be read. In 1915 the find was reported and commented (but not seen) by G. Seure, RA 5, 1915, 181-184 n. 137. In 1975 L. Hollenstein inspected the stone in the lapidarium near to the archaeological museum of Rusé, but only a fragment of 50 cm was left then. Again in 2007 at the same location it was possible to see the same fragment of limestone with five lines of the inscription (diam. 45 cm; letters 6/7 cm). The above newly proposed reconstruction of the whole inscription follows EDCS-28500161, although the division of lines remains uncertain. This follows the observation that the names of both emperors are given in all the milestones from Moesia inferior during the reign of Marcus Aurelius. Otherwise the brothers Skorpil had proposed the following reading without mentioning line divisions or abbreviations:

[Imp. Caes. M. Aurelius Antoninus Aug., divi Antonini filius, divi Hadriani nepos] divi Traiani pronepos, divi Nervae abnepos, a LX Pristis per cohortem II Flaviam Brittonum Servilio Fabiano, legato Augusti pro praetore.

This reading is discussed by Seure who considers if both emperors, Marcus and Lucius, had originally been mentioned, but remains – with suggested abbreviations – with the six lines read by the Skorpils.

For the provincial governor M. Servilius Fabianus Maximus see PIR<sup>2</sup> S 583, Thomasson, Laterculi praesidum I, ex parte retractatum, 2009, 51 n. 20:093.

According the proposed supplements of the inscription the date is 162 or 163 like EDCS-28500161 from the year 162/3 or EDCS-29100030 from the year 162.

The stone belongs to the road along the Danube starting in the province of Moesia superior along the south bank of the Danube at Belgrade / Singidunum, reaching Moesia inferior and then leading further along the river until the Black sea, see M. Madzharov, Roman Roads in Bulgaria, Veliko Tărnovo 2009, 131-183. Until now only two earlier milestones are known from the emperors Traian (EDCS-09100881, Musait-Dunareni / Sacidava) and Hadrian (A. Kolb, EDCS-76700106 from Kozloduy / Regianum).

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